

Remarks

The specification has been amended to correctly reflect that the present application is the national stage filing of corresponding international application number PCT/EP2003/012128, filed October 31, 2003, which claims priority to and the benefit of European Application No. 02024803.5, filed November 7, 2002.

Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 12 and 15-18 have been amended to remove the multiple dependency, correct typographical errors, and to bring the claims into conformance with current practices. No new matter have been added.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Date: May 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



Donald L. Rhoads, Reg. No. 34,705
Albert B. Chen, Reg. No. 41,667
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 715-9100 (telephone)
(212) 715-8000 (facsimile)